

I'm submitting this resolution because I believe it is important for our nation to recognize the role biotechnology has played in enhancing, saving and extending our lives. Indeed, biotechnology has extended the average American's life by nearly 25 years.

Mr. President, the 20th century has shown the most significant advancements in all fields of biotechnology and there is reason to believe it will continue to deliver great hope and promise well into the 21st century. This industry is one of our fastest growing and will add thousands of new job opportunities to our economy. Just as the weeks of January and February, 2000 represent the start of a countdown to a new millennium beginning in 2001, they also represent the countdown to breakthroughs we all once thought were impossible.

Already, advances made in agricultural biotechnology have given us increased crop yields and promises of new uses for our agricultural commodities as well as the higher quality, more nutritious products to improve the competitiveness of our farmers. Great strides have been made through the use of biotechnology and health care and hold the keys to successfully treating or curing diseases such as cancer, diabetes and countless other conditions. Biotechnology has assisted us in improving water quality, conserving precious topsoil and reducing the need for pesticides which helps us improve our environment for future generations.

Mr. President, these are just a few examples of the impact biotechnology has had on our lives. I believe Americans should understand the importance of biotechnology in our way of life. With the passage of the resolution I introduce today, we provide a forum for many events in February to salute and promote this industry of the future.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important industry.●

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT EMPLOYEES WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

##### THOMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 2290

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. THOMPSON) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 858) to amend title 11, District of Columbia Code, to extend coverage under the whistleblower protection provisions of the District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978 to personnel of the courts of the District of Columbia; as follows:

On page 5, strike lines 5 through 12.

On page 5, line 13, strike "(e)" and insert "(d)".

On page 5, line 18, strike "(f)" and insert "(e)".

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce that on Wednesday, October 13, 1999, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Governmental Affairs will hold a joint oversight hearing on the Department of Energy's implementation of provisions of the Department of Defense Authorization Act which create the National Nuclear Security Administration. The hearing will begin at 10 a.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO SGT. JOHN M. FEILER

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to an Idaho native and his contributions to this nation. Early next week Sgt. John Feiler will be recognized here in Washington D.C. as Fort Hood's Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the third quarter of 1999.

Let me to tell you a little about this wonderful Idahoan. John Feiler, a native of Burley, Idaho enlisted in the Army shortly after graduating from Burley High School. He began his training as a Combat Engineer in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He was then assigned to the Engineer Battalion at Camp Eschborn in Germany. While in Germany he was an active participant in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Provide Comfort in Southwest Asia, for which he earned several awards and decorations.

After the Persian Gulf War, John was reassigned to Fort Stewart, Georgia. While there, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, and a short time later he attended the Staff Sergeant Selection Board. During his assignment in Fort Stewart, he was selected as the Commandant's Inspection Awardee, made the Commandant's list, was nominated as the 24th ID Engineer Brigade NCO of the Year for two consecutive years ('93 & '94), and nominated to represent the 24th ID as their NCO of the Year for the XVIII Airborne Corps NCO of the Year competition.

In August of 1994 Sgt. Feiler pursued and completed the Army Recruiters Course. He served three years as a recruiter and was awarded the Gold Recruiter Badge as a permanent award.

In December of 1997 he arrived in Fort Hood, Texas and was assigned to his current unit, A Company 299th Engineer Battalion. During the eighteen months that he has served in the battalion, he has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement medals, and was chosen as one of the "Heroes of Battle" during the battalion's 99-05 NTC rotation. He is currently serving as a squad leader there.

His awards include the following: the Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with nine oak leaf clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal (third award), the National Defense Service Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal (Saudi Arabia), and the Liberation of Kuwait Medal (Kuwait).

Idaho and the nation are proud of the way in which Sgt. John Feiler has served our country. I am pleased to draw the Senate's attention to the outstanding contributions he has made and hope all my colleagues will join me in honoring him.●

#### C.B. KING UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 291, S. 1567.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1567) to designate the United States courthouse located at 223 Broad Street in Albany, Georgia, as the "C.B. King United States Courthouse."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1567) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1567

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States courthouse located at 223 Broad Street in Albany, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "C.B. King United States Courthouse".

#### SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "C.B. King United States Courthouse".

#### SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 292, S. 1595.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1595) to designate the United States courthouse at 401 West Washington Street in Phoenix, Arizona, as the "Sandra Day O'Connor United States Courthouse".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.